

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

### **COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-24 : (Canceled)

Claim 25 : (New) A path construction means for attempting to construct a path through a packet network from a source host address to a destination host address, comprising: means for signaling to an admission control device for controlling admission to a section of the path, and for returning information on a range of host addresses controlled by the admission control device.

Claim 26 : (New) The path construction means as claimed in claim 25, including another admission control device for controlling admission to another section of the path, and means for maintaining a reservation state in the admission control devices when setting up a reservation to another host address controlled by the first-mentioned admission control device.

Claim 27 : (New) The path construction means as claimed in claim 25, in which the signaling means is operative for returning the address of the first-mentioned admission control device.

Claim 28 : (New) The path construction means as claimed in claim 27, in which the signaling means is operative for directly signaling to the first-mentioned admission control device when setting up a reservation to another host address controlled by the first-mentioned admission control device.

Claim 29 : (New) The path construction means as claimed in claim 25, in which the admission control device has a release state and a reserved state arranged to achieve a desired quality of service.

Claim 30 : (New) The path construction means as claimed in claim 25, wherein the signaling means is operative for returning the information in conjunction with information passed in an attempt to set up a reservation between a source host and a destination host.

Claim 31 : (New) The path construction means as claimed in claim 26, including means for examining address ranges returned from multiple reservations, and to detect overlapping ranges from concurrent sessions.

Claim 32 : (New) The path construction means as claimed in claim 25, wherein a tunnel reservation is constructed.

Claim 33 : (New) The path construction means as claimed in claim 32, in which the first-mentioned admission control device is arranged to provide address information local to an end of a tunnel.

Claim 34 : (New) The path construction means as claimed in claim 33, including means for moving another reservation in the network into the tunnel.

Claim 35 : (New) The path construction means as claimed in claim 25, in which a rate of the section of the path is less than one half of a rate of a preceding section of the path.

Claim 36 : (New) The path construction means as claimed in claim 35, in which the rate of the section of the path is less than one tenth of the rate of the preceding section of the path.

Claim 37 : (New) A method of attempting to construct a path through a packet network from a source host address to a destination host address, comprising the steps of: signaling to an admission control device for controlling admission to a section of the path, and returning information on a range of host addresses controlled by the admission control device.

Claim 38 : (New) The method as claimed in claim 37, including another admission control device for controlling admission to another section of the path, and maintaining a reservation state in the admission control devices when setting up a reservation to another host address controlled by the first-mentioned admission control device.

Claim 39 : (New) The method as claimed in claim 37, in which the signaling means returns the address of the first-mentioned admission control device.

Claim 40 : (New) The method as claimed in claim 39, in which the signaling means signals directly to the first-mentioned admission control device when setting up a reservation to another host address controlled by the first-mentioned admission control device.

Claim 41 : (New) The method as claimed in claim 37, in which the admission control device has a release state and a reserved state arranged to achieve a desired quality of service.

Claim 42 : (New) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein the signaling means returns the information in conjunction with information passed in an attempt to set up a reservation between a source host and a destination host.

Claim 43 : (New) The method as claimed in claim 42, including examining address ranges returned from multiple reservations, and detecting overlapping ranges from concurrent sessions.

Claim 44 : (New) The method as claimed in claim 37, and constructing a tunnel reservation.

Claim 45 : (New) The method as claimed in claim 44, in which the first-mentioned admission control device provides address information local to an end of a tunnel.

Claim 46 : (New) The method as claimed in claim 45, including moving another reservation in the network into the tunnel.

Claim 47 : (New) The method as claimed in claim 37, in which a rate of the section of the path is less than one half of a rate of a preceding section of the path.

Claim 48 : (New) The method as claimed in claim 47, in which the rate of the section of the path is less than one tenth of the rate of the preceding section of the path.